



# Arrowhead News

November 2000

## Introducing!

Here it is! The brand new edition of Arrowhead News. Go on, admit it: you're impressed. Well, okay, we realize it still needs a bit of polishing but hey, we're getting there. So what's so different about this edition? Well for starters, Arrowhead News has gone from a 2-page to a 4-page format. Yep, just what you need: more to read! The new format will bring you a lot more information. Starting with this issue, we will include regular features such as Duck Soup for the Aboriginal Soul, What's your Moose, Frybread Corner, the Concordia Page and my personal favorite, Sweetgrass and Buffalo Chips. The idea behind the revamping of Arrowhead News is to lighten up the contents and make it more accessible to everyone. We are eagerly looking forward to your comments. Read on to find out more!

## So this Indian walks into a bar...

They say laughter is the best medicine...  
Got a joke you find hilarious? Let us know!

A shepherd is tending his sheep at the edge of a country road. A brand new car screeches to a halt next to him. The driver, a sharp-dressed young man, gets out and asks: "If I guess how many sheep you have, will you give me one of them?" The shepherd looks at him, then looks at the sprawling field of sheep and says: "Okay." The man parks the car, connects his notebook and wireless modem, enters a NASA site, scans the ground using his GPS, opens a database and 60 Excel tables filled with algorithms, then prints a 150 page report on his high tech mini-printer. He then turns to the shepherd and says: "You have exactly 1,586 sheep here." The shepherd answers: "That's correct, you can have your sheep." The young man takes one of the animals and puts it in the back of his vehicle. The shepherd looks at him and asks: "Now, if I guess your profession, will you pay me back in kind?" The young man answers: "Sure." The shepherd says: "You are a consultant." "Exactly! How did you know?" asks the young man. "Very simple," answers the shepherd, "First, you came here without being called. Second, you charged me a fee

to tell me something I already knew. Third, you do not understand anything about my business and I'd really like to have my dog back."

## Frybread Corner

Are you world renowned for your cooking? Want to let us in on your little kitchen secrets? Drop us a line! Here is a recipe the young (and not so young) will love.

### Rocky Road Squares

|            |                        |
|------------|------------------------|
| 3 cups     | miniature marshmallows |
| 2 1/2 cups | Rice Krispies          |
| 1/2 cup    | corn syrup             |
| 1 cup      | chocolate chips        |
| 1/2 cup    | peanut butter          |

In large bowl, combine marshmallows and Rice Krispies. In saucepan, combine corn syrup and chocolate chips. Stir over low heat until smoothly melted. Remove from heat. Stir in peanut butter. Pour mixture over marshmallows and Rice Krispies and mix well.

Press mixture in greased square pan. Let cool in refrigerator for 1/2 hour before serving. Enjoy!

Dr. Donald Boisvert  
Dean of Students H 653-11



### **Sweetgrass and Buffalo Chips**

You guessed it. It's the bouquets and brickbats of the Aboriginal world. If you know someone or something to recommend to this column, be our guest.

**Sweetgrass** to Alwyn Morris for his induction in the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame. Mr. Morris, along with his partner Hugh Fisher, won a bronze and a gold medal in kayaking at the 1984 Summer Olympics. Mr. Morris, you make us all proud to be Native.

**Buffalo Chips** to Stockwell Day for revealing that under his leadership he would do away with our "tax privileges". Mr. Day seems to forget that our right to no taxation is guaranteed by treaty.

**Buffalo Chips** (a whole pile of it) to the Supreme Court of Canada for ruling last week that land owned by the Musqueam band is only worth half its municipal evaluation because it is located on reserve. By handing down its decision, the Supreme Court has made it clear that we are second-class citizens.

**Buffalo Chips** to CBC for its portrayal of Aboriginal Peoples in its populist history series *Canada: A People's History*. Although some of the best representation of First Nations ever to hit the screen (with a long way to go), CBC still felt the need to air a full five minutes of a torture scene between two Native men. Where is the historical relevance?

### **Indian Time**

The column where you share your thoughts and your opinions. Are you interested in writing an article or an editorial for Arrowhead News? This is the place. *(The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Concordia University).*

#### **Is Christmas a Native tradition?**

Every year at about this time, I get a telephone call from a journalist who wants to know what the Natives do for Christmas. Don't we have some traditions at this time of the year, like, wasn't there something sort of like Christmas before Contact that we still do today? Aaargh! Try as I might to explain that we have been Christianized and that those of us who do Christmas believe in Santa Claus just like everybody else, they always end up disappointed. There goes the scoop!

Although many of us do not observe Christmas for a variety of reasons – whether because Christmas is a Christian holiday symbolic of religious oppression or that we object to the crass materialism of it all – the fact is, there is no escaping it. How can we, as Native people, not only accept the holiday season but embrace it as our own? By developing our own celebration, consistent with our traditional beliefs.

African Americans are increasingly celebrating Kwanzaa, a holiday initiated by Dr. Maulana Ron Karenga in 1966. Kwanzaa is a spiritual, festive and joyous celebration of the goodness of life. It claims no ties with any religion. It is a time for gathering of families, and for rededication to a way of life. Kwanzaa has definite principles, practices and symbols which are geared to the social and spiritual needs of African Americans. Kwanzaa is designed to strengthen the collective self-concept of a people, who wish to honour their past, critically evaluate their present and commit themselves to a fuller, more productive future. Kwanzaa is a way of life; not just a celebration. It is a week of actual remembering, recommitting, rewarding and rejoicing.

Like Black Americans, we Native people can develop our own festivities. Even small gestures make a difference. Do away with the turkey, serve some caribou and wild rice. Honour your clans and your guardian spirits instead of angels and snowmen. Rethink about why and how we give to our loved ones. Why not replace Santa Claus or call him something different like say, Kiseyiniw (Old Man)? What do you think?

- M. Tremblay



### **Duck Soup for the Aboriginal Soul**

A section of this outstanding publication where we squeeze in inspirational stories or quotes. Know of any that would benefit us all?

Wisdom is oftentimes nearer when we stoop than when we soar.

- William Wordsworth

### **What's your moose?**

What's your moose is a column where you can air your concerns about what's happening in the world, at Concordia or at the Centre for Native Education. Got a rant? We want to hear from you! *(The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Concordia University).*

A couple of weeks back, I happened on a CBC radio report on non-Natives practicing Native spirituality. The people interviewed went on and on about the sacredness of the pow-wow (hmmm... Dancers who wear numbers and compete for cash prizes. Very sacred indeed!) and how it fits so well with their own ideologies. They all sounded as if they were high on something! To embrace spirituality is one thing; to hold a holier than thou attitude in the process is something else. As pointed out by the Aboriginal people interviewed in the segment, there is nothing sacred to the First Nations anymore. Every aspect of our culture and religion seems to be free for the taking by anyone who wants to indulge. What I find disturbing about this trend is the fact that the Wannabe tribe are not picking up on signals that we find their pilfering of all that we hold sacred unwelcome. Even more disturbing is the cultural identity issues that Wannabes are obviously struggling with. These identity issues will never be resolved as long as they pretend to be who they are not. Every culture has a rich heritage. The idea is to accept who you are. There is no shame in that. - M. Tremblay

### **Classifieds**

The heading speaks for itself. Want to advertise something? Got something to sell? Best of all, there's no charge!

**Wanted:** participants to help bead the Indian Act. When: Mondays from 7 to 11 pm. Where: Oboro (4003 Berri, Montreal). For more information, please contact Nadia Myre at (514) 761-5753.

**Sublet:** 4 1/2 with double living room available to sublet as of end of December 2000 to June 30, 2001. For more information, please call Kitty at (514) 482-8220 extension 335.

**For Sale:** Black melamine CD rack tower. Holds 65 CDs. Worth \$100, asking \$25. Call Manon at (514) 848-7326 for more information. Rack tower can be viewed at the Centre for Native Education.

**For Sale:** Osh Kosh snowsuit for baby boy, infant size 18 months. Mint condition. Worth \$150, asking \$40. Call Manon at (514) 848-7326 for more information. Snowsuit can be viewed at the Centre for Native Education.

### **Native Studies at Concordia**

On Friday, November 10, Native students and Centre for Native Education staff held their first meeting on the creation of a Native studies programme at Concordia. The meeting, which lasted a whopping 4 1/2 hours, attracted a small but enthusiastic number of people who shared their visions and wisdom on all things Native. It was agreed that a proposal should be written by Manon Tremblay to fund a feasibility study and activities pertaining to the development of a Native Studies programme. In the meantime, a committee was struck to work on the project. Stay tuned for more information in the next issue of Arrowhead News or call Manon at (514) 848-7326.



# The Concordia Page

This is where we get down to business and bring you the news you need to know.

## Dates to remember

December 4: Last day of classes for the fall term

December 5: Make up day for Thanksgiving

December 6: Exam period begins

December 7: Centre for Native Education Holiday Gathering

## Telephone Scam Alert

If you receive a call from a telephone company representative who says he is conducting tests on telephone lines, please be on your guard. Typically, the "representative" will ask you to press 9-0-#. By pushing that combination, you are giving the individual full access to your telephone line which enables him to make long distance phone calls billed to your home. AT&T officials inform us that this old scam, which resurfaces now and again, often originates from many local prisons. Please beware. Do not press 90# for anyone.

## Virus Alert

Tis the Season! There is a new computer virus out there which spreads through e-mail. The virus comes in the form of an attachment called NATIVIDAD.EXE and will look as though it comes from someone you know. Please don't open the attachment. Just trash it.

## Etuangat Inuit History Essay Prize

\$500 will be presented for the best history essay based on an Elder's story and written by an Inuk student enrolled at any Canadian university or college. For applications and guidelines, please visit the following website:

[www.uottawa.ca/associations/aucen-acuns](http://www.uottawa.ca/associations/aucen-acuns). Deadline: January 31, 2001.

## New books!

The Centre for Native Education has acquired new books for its documentation centre. We invite you to come and consult our growing collection. Among the new titles are:

**Urban Indian Reserves.** Barron & Garcia eds.

**Protecting Indigenous Knowledge and Heritage.** Battiste and Youngblood Henderson

**A Little Matter of Genocide.** Churchill, Ward.

**White Man's Law.** Haring, Sidney.

**Museums and the Representation of Native Americans.** McLoughlin, Moira.

**Natives and Academics.** Mihesuah, Devon.

**Aboriginal Languages and Education.**

Morris, McLeod and Danesi.

**People of Terra Nullius.** Richardson, Boyce

**Aboriginal Health in Canada.** Waldram, Herring and Young

## New computer!

The Centre for Native Education has recently invested in a PC for students who have discriminating tastes in computers. The new computer is finally wired for internet use and e-mail and is programmed with all the latest software. The Centre also has two recent Mac models that students can use.

## Centre for Native Education

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